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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENTER INTO A  
FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH TAIWAN.

1 WHEREAS, the statistics on trade activity between the  
2 United States and Taiwan are impressive; and  
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4 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth largest trading  
5 partner, eleventh largest export market, and fifth largest farm  
6 products market; and  
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8 WHEREAS, in 2006, the trade flow between the United States  
9 and Taiwan totaled \$61,200,000,000, and the cumulative United  
10 States investment in Taiwan amounted to \$15,000,000,000; and  
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12 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been actively seeking a bilateral free  
13 trade agreement with the United States; and  
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15 WHEREAS, a free trade agreement may provide more  
16 opportunities for United States companies to invest in and  
17 export to Taiwan; and  
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19 WHEREAS, United States consumers may also benefit from  
20 products made in Taiwan; and  
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22 WHEREAS, Taiwan is currently a member of the World Trade  
23 Organization and a party to many economic and trade agreements  
24 with various countries; and  
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26 WHEREAS, the United States concluded a free trade agreement  
27 with South Korea on April 2, 2007; and  
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29 WHEREAS, the structure of Taiwan's and South Korea's  
30 exports to the United States are very similar, with both  
31 consisting primarily of manufactured goods; and  
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1 WHEREAS, the United States' free trade agreement with South  
2 Korea creates a trade disparity in that it will have a very  
3 negative impact upon Taiwan's economy, resulting in a  
4 substantial weakening of the United States' competitiveness in  
5 the international market; and

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7 WHEREAS, it is urgent that Taiwan be on the same  
8 competitive footing in the United States market as South Korea  
9 in order to sustain a continuing economic growth for Taiwan,  
10 which is in the best interest of the United States  
11 internationally; and

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13 WHEREAS, in 2006, thirty-five state houses or senate or  
14 both, in twenty-three states, passed resolutions to express  
15 support of a free trade agreement between the United States and  
16 Taiwan; and

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18 WHEREAS, a free trade agreement with Taiwan may enable the  
19 United States to indirectly facilitate the participation of  
20 Taiwan in multilateral Asian trade agreements; now, therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the  
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the President of the  
25 United States is urged to enter into a free trade agreement with  
26 Taiwan; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United  
29 States is requested to undertake negotiations for a free trade  
30 agreement with Taiwan in a manner that respects the interests of  
31 all countries in the East Asian region; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
35 United States and each member of Hawaii's congressional  
36 delegation.

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OFFERED BY:

4. Kelvin Egbah

